

A peculiar case of rickets has been just discovered in the following circumstances: A lady of sixty-two, in an infirmary at Rheims, was receiving treatment of ergot of rye for disease of the knee. During an unfavorable turn, Dr. Lutoz, her attendant, sought to strengthen the action of that medicine by combining phosphate of soda with it. Three quarters of an hour after taking this, the patient surprised the other inmates of the hospital by bursting into loud laughter, which continued, with brief intervals of quiet, for more than an hour. No ill effects seemed to follow this intoxication, the patient continuing in high spirits for some time without any resulting depression. The substance was again administered to the same patient, and to others, with like results, the action being only slight in the case of men. The effects are believed to have a common origin with those from eating rye-bread, when, in rainy years, the cereal contains as much as five per cent of ergot. A sort of intoxication is then produced, which the consumers by no means despise.

—Anthropologists have always attached much importance to the stone age in Egypt, on account of its bearing upon the antiquity of the human race. Hitherto the finds of stone implements have been quite superficial, indicating a comparatively late date, but Gen. Pitt-Rivers has now announced the finding of worked flints buried five or ten feet deep in stratified gravel and mud near Thebes. The gravel had become so hardened in Egyptian times that they were able to cut tombs supported by pillars in it, and these have remained in their original condition to this day. Some of the implements were chiselled out of the gravel in the sides of these tombs, and their age must be great.

—In a recent address before a British sanitary society, Dr. Richardson, F.R.S., stated that the number of well-known infectious diseases is twenty-six, and that each has its special period of incubation, which is quite regular. The period of incubation is the time which intervenes between the acceptance of the poison causing the disease and the first manifestation of effect. Diseases may thus be grouped according to their incubation period into five classes—shortest, short, medium, long and longest. The shortest period is one to four days, and under this head come plague, cholera, malignant pustule and diphtheria. The second period is from two to six days, and embraces scarlet fever, diphtheria, croup, erysipelas, whooping-cough, influenza, glandular and pneumonia. The medium period is from four to eight days, and includes cow-pox and relapsing fever. The long period is from ten to fifteen days, and to it belongs measles, mumps, typhus and typhoid. The longest period, forty days, includes syphilis, and may embrace hydrophobia. In conclusion, Dr. Richardson emphasized the value of the lessons conveyed by a correct knowledge of these periods of incubation.

—A marine algae is found in the Arctic regions growing at a temperature far below zero, while at higher temperatures the spores disappear. From this fact it appears that some vegetable life requires for its existence intense cold and continuous dryness, and to that class the cryptogams of red snow probably belong.

—The editor of *L'Electricite* recommends a course of experiments to determine the value of electricity in restoring the circulation in the bodies of persons nearly drowned or asphyxiated.

—Considering the extensive use of seltzer water, the thoroughly wholesome quality of the beverage is an important matter. In a report presented to the Comité Consultatif d'Hygiene of France, Dr. Sherier remarks that in the manufacture of seltzer water carbonic acid is produced by the reaction of sulphuric acid on chalk, the one is dangerous, the other is impure; hence the necessity of purifying the gas by a thorough washing. The information gained by the committee named shows that manufacturers in general carefully treat the gas in this manner, so that the purity of the product is guaranteed. It would seem, therefore, that seltzer water may be taken without fear of contaminating substances.

—A curious work by Prof. Ferri, treating of criminality in France, has appeared in Italy. Among other results, the author finds a concentration of crime in an ever decreasing number of individuals, some of whom appear to pass their whole lives in the repetition of criminal deeds. In other words, while the number of criminals is becoming less, the vicious are growing more depraved.

—M. Trouve has been experimenting in Paris with electricity as a motive power for boats. With an electro-magnetic motor weighing about five pounds, driven by two batteries weighing about twenty-five pounds each, he recently caused a boat carrying three persons to be propelled at the rate of about three miles an hour. The little motor would have been unable to perform. The motor, operating a small screw, was attached to the rudder, and worked without noise of any kind or any perceptible jar.

A little learning is a dangerous thing, and becomes even more so in the face of emergency. A small boy with vague notions of knowledge, but a settled conviction that he was personally to blame for most things that happened, thereupon resolved to atone for his share in a recent misadventure by sharing his knowledge with his school. In due course it came to his turn to answer questions. The master, a stern looking man, with a rufous-haired head and grating by perpetual flash-finding and scolding, looked straight at him and thundered forth: "Now sir, new boy, who made the world?" No answer coming from the startled boy, the question was repeated with still more emphasis. Still no reply from the newcomer, who trembled visibly on his seat. The master, losing all patience, brought his ruler down with thundering violence and shouted once more: "Will you tell me, who made the world?" It was too much for the boy, and he answered: "Please, sir, I did, but—I'll never do it again."

# The Bucks County Gazette.

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NO. 49.

## TEMPERANCE NOTES.

### The Brewers in Council.

The proceedings of the late Brewers' Congress are noteworthy in two particulars: first, their conspicuous character upon the present prosperity of the brewing business as a whole in this country, and second, their avowed and grave apprehensions concerning the dangers which threaten it in the near future. The beer-producers of the last fiscal year reached the enormous aggregate of 184,711 barrels, but meanwhile Maine has wholly disapproved from the brewers' record of beer-producing States, Kansas has pronounced against brewing for drinking purposes as an illegitimate business, and Iowa, Indiana and other States are preparing speedily to follow in the same pathway. The brewers' rejoicing is therefore naturally enough tempered with solicitude.

The president of the congress, in his opening address, took occasion to denounce the "malignity of intemperance," and to declare that "free institutions are founded upon a comparative late date, but Gen. Pitt-Rivers has now announced the finding of worked flints buried five or ten feet deep in stratified gravel and mud near Thebes. The gravel had become so hardened in Egyptian times that they were able to cut tombs supported by pillars in it, and these have remained in their original condition to this day. Some of the implements were chiselled out of the gravel in the sides of these tombs, and their age must be great."

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## PLATONIC.

### I knew it the first of the summer.

I knew it the first of the summer—  
I knew it the same at the end—  
That you and your love was plighted,  
But couldn't "on be my friend?"  
Couldn't we sit in the twilight,  
Couldn't we walk on the shore,  
With moon and pleasant friendship,  
To bind us, and nothing more?

There was never a word of nonsense  
Spoken between us two,  
Though we lingered oft in the garden  
And the moon was out with dew;  
We touched on a thousand subjects—  
The moon and the stars above;  
But our talks were filled with science,  
With news, and nothing more.

"A wholly platonic friendship,"  
You said I had proved to you,  
"Could I be a man and woman,  
The whole long season through,  
With never a thought of folly,  
Though both are in their youth,  
What would you have said, my lady,  
If you had known the truth?"

Had I done what my heart prompted—  
I would have told you all,  
And told you my passionate love,  
And told you my passionate love,  
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chaunting in conversation; she filled the room with her own resources, to the exclusion of all else.

Insidiously creeping into every fiber of his being, he felt the want of her to have and to cherish for himself, to teach that love was his myth, to melt that icy cold that never melted.

He dared not speak, the steady glance of her wonderful eyes checked him when ever he essayed any word that could reveal the wild love of his heart, and that each hour "grew with its growth and strengthened with its strength."

He favored him in that she granted him her society, she even seemed, in her own silent way, to enjoy this elevating, ennobling association that drew them, through the medium of books and song, into intellectual converse with the giant minds of many long since passed into the beyond, leaving only phantom ghosts of words and genius.

He was reading a passionate, longing heart words from "Infelicia"  
"In the night  
The storm was in the air, the sea was wild,  
And you love me, answer me, answer me!"

He gave her a quick, stealthy glance. Such a look of mortal agony as the white face bore! He could not endure it, he sprang to his feet.

"Miss Barrington," he pleaded, "do you intend always to merit your title of man-hater?"

"Yes, Mr. Murdock," the violet eyes met his in infinite scorn, the voice was even-toned.

He tried to convince you that honor and truth and manhood exist in life, that love is not a demon to mock and torment you?"

"No, Mr. Murdock," there was not a sign to indicate that the words had reached her heart. "I shall be on my guard," she said, "I shall be on my guard."

"Oh, Miss Barrington," Leslie Murdock's book dropped unheeded, "I may never hope for your dear favor, I may only struggle blindly against my own folly, and I love you as I never expected to love mortal woman, with no hope of return! As well as a good-looking, light in face, less than a girl, and cold in heart, and true as steel, Leslie Murdock had proved. Only once had he, while teaching her the sweet lesson of belief in life and humanity, asked her love, and received the old answer.

"I shall never marry."

but he drank, gambled, tortured me, broke my heart—I did have a heart innocent baby, died of cold and hunger in my arms, and was buried in the Potter's field."

Two tears dropped here from eyes that burned like a fierce white flame, then she was ice cold and distant as ever.

"I could not bury her," she said, with a shudder, "Leslie Murdock, the whole soul of his life, died passionately."

"Don't distress yourself, my confidence is sacred, come to me."

His arms were opened to her, his tenderness, worshipping eyes wooed her, but she put him, steadily, gently aside.

"No," she answered low, "not there; in a den of wickedness, infamy, and self, a shame to his manhood and an insult to me, I must have starved, but Uncle Ralph found me, pitied me, loved me. I have hated all men; I loved to distrust and distrust them, till now."

He was winning and sweet, my own love, my wounded dove, come, come find refuge upon my heart and let me teach you how love can atone for all the heart pang. As Heaven is my witness, you shall never regret it.

With infinite sadness she shook her head.

"No," she said solemnly, "I shall never be any man's wife. Your friend, if you still wish, never any more."

In vain he reasoned, pleaded and besought her, she was more sweetly winning than he ever knew her, but a rock could not be more inflexible.

When, at last, he bade her good-bye, he said, softly:

"Dear little friend, I will help you bear your burden. Bless you for your confidence. Good-night."

## WOMAN'S SPHERE.

### The readers of the GAZETTE frequently have the opportunity of seeing in its columns articles advocating woman's suffrage, and we have no hesitancy in expressing ourselves, as heretofore, in favor of this reform, not, however, because its success is likely to cure all the ills in the body politic, but as a matter of justice, and to place the women of the land on an equality, politically, with mankind.

Equality before the law in everything is our motto. But, of course, there is something to be said on the other side, although most of such arguments are based upon prejudice. Whether this is the case with the article which follows, may be judged by those who read it. It is reproduced here from the *Louisville Courier-Journal* to show the Southern view of the woman question, and as an evidence that the agitation is extending in a direction where, heretofore, it has seldom received anything but ridicule. The article is as follows:

"One of the most earnest pleas in behalf of suffrage for women which has been made this year was that of Francis Ellen Burr before the Woman's National Suffrage Association at the recent meeting in Hartford, Connecticut.

When a spirited, enthusiastic woman puts in her work on this subject, she says a great many remarkable things, a great many rash things, a great many indefensible things. This was the case with Francis Ellen Burr, who wrote and lectured in the movement, under an institution that woman has a very well established sphere at home. We believe, with the suffragist, in the wide scope of woman's capacities, we believe that if a woman can really serve her day and generation as a physician, she should be so qualified herself for the duties of the profession and practice it. If she can make a living as a lawyer and has the necessary qualifications for that profession, she should enter it. If she can be a good bookkeeper and thus support herself, let her proceed to business. If she can qualify herself for any other work and can stand it, nobody has any right, save for philanthropic reasons, to obstruct her. But it is a conspicuous fact that the reason the women of the United States do not more numerous appear in the employment market, is not because of the want of ability, but because of the want of the proper training. The reason women do not more numerous appear in the employment market, is not because of the want of ability, but because of the want of the proper training. The reason women do not more numerous appear in the employment market, is not because of the want of ability, but because of the want of the proper training.

"No," she said, "I do not intend to do anything of the sort," she was the somewhat remarkable response of the President's.

"Oh, yes, but I do," replied Hamlin, not quite understanding Mr. Lincoln.

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as Frances Ellen Burr says, "a poor, miserable creature, dragged down to the 'model housewife' who were the happiest women we ever saw, in the enjoyment of good health, delighting in the superintendence and participation in household management, and the little of children growing up around them, and withal as contented as they can be. A woman holds her fate in her own hands. She usually marries voluntarily. If she marries a drunkard, she may soon be tucked away in some quiet corner of the churchyard, or she may lead a most miserable existence for years. If she marries a true and loyal man, she will never weep because she is a 'political nonentity' she will be happy without politics, she is content for her husband to vote. There is nothing ignoble in such a condition. The woman who is a drudge is generally a drudge because of her own unwisdom. But, alas! the female suffrage never admit that women are often the factors of their own unhappiness."

The New York Tribune publishes a long sketch of the life of Hannibal Hamlin, of Maine, which contains many interesting reminiscences of the war. The following concerning the emancipation act and the employment of negroes in the army are interesting from a historical standpoint.

President, in advance of many of his associates, foresaw that its ultimate result would be the liberation of the slaves. It is not claimed, certainly not by him, the most modest of men, that he had any acerbic idea as to the exact manner in which the emancipation was to occur, still he was convinced that, sooner or later, and in some way, the slaves would be free. Holding these views, as the war progressed he repeatedly pressed upon the President the advisability of issuing an emancipation proclamation. To the President's objections, Mr. Lincoln gave the most thoughtful and earnest attention, but still let the matter wait. This was the situation one evening when Mr. Hamlin went to the White House and announced to the President that he intended to leave that night for a visit to his home.

"No," you don't," he said, "do nothing of the sort," she was the somewhat remarkable response of the President's.

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claimed Stanton, with suppressed excitement, and hardly daring to believe that one of his pet schemes was about to go into effect.

"Here is the President's order," was Hamlin's simple response. Hastily the secretaries and clerks threw aside their usual gruffness of manner, his calm, dignified, impulsive feeling came to the surface, great tears welled up into his eyes, and flowed over his care-worn face. Then convulsively throwing his arms about Hamlin, he cried out with all the earnestness of a deep, strong nature:

"Thank God for this!—Thank God for this!"

It is the mean temperature that makes a man sick.

When a "bank goes up" it generally fails to "come down."

If a man cannot be cured by smoking he is less susceptible than a hain.

Two heads are better than one on a letter that weighs over half an ounce.

A pig was never known to wash, but a great many people have seen the pig iron.

Brownjohn very appropriately calls his yacht his floating debt. It isn't paid for.

A young lady of New York has appropriately named her dog Penny, because it was one sent to her.

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